

Michael F. Easley  
Governor



State of North Carolina  
Office of the Governor

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**GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 94 JOBS AND \$1.3 MILLION INVESTMENT FOR HOKE COUNTY**  
***One North Carolina Fund Grant Helps Bring Military Manufacturing Group To Raeford***

**RALEIGH** – Gov. Mike Easley announced today that Military Manufacturing Group (MMG), a producer of defense related products, will open their first facility in Hoke County creating 94 jobs and an investment of \$1.3 million. The new facility is made possible in part by a \$50,000 grant from the One North Carolina Fund and workforce training provided by North Carolina's Community College System.

"Military Manufacturing Group's decision to locate in North Carolina, the most military friendly state in the nation, is a tremendous win for the company, the community and the state," Easley said. "Attracting quality military industries is part of our economic strategy and we will continue to make smart investments to bring innovative companies such as MMG to our state."

MMG is a new company that will manufacture skydiving harnesses and containers that house parachutes for the United States military. The new facility in Raeford will require 94 highly skilled and experienced workers. The positions will be manufacturing jobs with an average salary of \$387 per week, which is nearly \$100 above Hoke County's average manufacturing wage.

"We chose Hoke County because of the advantages it offers to companies in our industry," said MMG co-owner Tim D'Annunzio. "Raeford Parachute Center's PK Airpark, located less than a mile from our location, is a well-known parachuting drop zone for both military and sport parachutists. Our close proximity to Fort Bragg and the state's close relationship with the military afford us with tremendous opportunities. Also, Hoke County's available labor force would allow a rapid start-up and expansion as needed."

The One North Carolina Fund helps the state recruit and expand quality jobs by providing financial assistance to businesses or industries deemed by the governor to be vital to a healthy and growing state economy. Through the use of this Fund, more than 12,000 jobs and \$1 billion in investment have been created since 2001. MMG also received a grant of \$96,973 from the Community College System's New & Expanding Industry Training Program.

Anyone interested in applying for a job with MMG should contact Kim Turner at 910/875-9002.

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